

## CIAP-Project Nominee Fact Sheet

**Project Title:** Bayou du Portage Dredging-Phase 1

**Entity/Individual nominating the project:** St. Martin Parish, Louisiana

**Contact Information:** 1. **Guy Cormier**  
**Parish President**  
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**Total CIAP Funds Requested:** \$  
**Requested State Fund:** \$  
**Parish Allocation:** \$

**Infrastructure Funds Proposed:** \$

**Description and Location of the Project:** The Bayou du Portage watershed is located in St Martin and Iberia Parishes, to the east of the City of St. Martinsville in St. Martin Parish and north of the village of Loreauville in Iberia Parish. The Bayou drains an area located between the east bank alluvial ridge of Bayou Teche and the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee (WABPL), approximately 29,300 acres of land, much of which is agricultural, into Lake Dauterive. From its outlet on Lake Dauterive, it extends in a generally westerly direction approximately 12.9 miles to its upper end near Bayou Teche. From Lake Dauterive upstream about 8.4 miles, the Bayou serves as the boundary between Iberia and St. Martin parishes. Siltation and thereby reduced water quality are the current problems. Silt deposited in Lake Dauterive and Lake Fausse Point restricts flow from Bayou du Portage.

The proposed project feature for Phase 1 would include:

- Dredging of a portion of Bayou du Portage, along the agricultural lands, with dredged material to be used beneficially to create filter strips along both sides of the bayou where agricultural land has eroded. A portion of which will be replanted with bald cypress and other indigenous native species. Dredging will stop at the agriculture land and swamp interface.

**Project Type:** Conservation, restoration and protection of coastal area, including wetland.

**Project Justification:**

Coastwide: Region 3 - Beneficial use of dredged material; Dedicated dredging;

Regional Strategy: # 1 (Restore Swamps) Improve hydrology, water quality, and drainage

Bayou du Portage has been identified as the major source of suspended and dissolved sediments that have, over time, lead to significant shallowing of portions of the lake, in addition to being a source of high nutrient concentrations shown to be responsible for eutrophication in the southern end of Lake Dauterive.

Dredging Bayou du Portage will allow for a more efficient hydrologic exchange, providing a more consistent source of fresh water to the cypress swamps, as well as providing a suitable substrate for the

establishment of filter strips along both banks of the bayou. This project is expected to increase the water quality of Bayou du Portage so that incidents of eutrophication will be reduced.

The filter strips will aid in reducing the loading of sediment, nutrients and agricultural pesticides that drain into the Bayou and then flow into Lake Dauterive.

**Project Cost Share:**      **State = %**  
                                 **Parish = %**



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**Legend**

- Bayou Du Portage Dredging
- Filler Strips

REFERENCE: 2004 DOQQ Aerial Photography



ST. MARTIN PARISH

Bayou du Portage Dredging - Phase 1